

January 29, 2025

Scott Edinger
Chief of Police
Jamestown Police Department

House Transportation Committee
Chairman Ruby and Committee Members,

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1340, which amends and reenacts subsection 4 of section 39-21-39 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating window time on motor vehicles.

The amendment in this bill would lower the percentage of permissible light transmission through the front driver and passenger side windows of a motor vehicle from fifty percent to thirty-five percent.

Allowing this change would put North Dakota in a more consistent position with most other states. Currently only 8 states and the District of Columbia are more restrictive than, and four other states are equal to North Dakota in tint restrictions. Thirty-six states have equal or less restrictive tint laws compared to what is proposed in HB 1340. For this reason, I believe it is a good compromise with the traditional arguments law enforcement has made against window tint versus the benefits of having slightly darker tint.

Traditionally, law enforcement has argued against darker tint for officer safety on traffic stops, as very dark tint can limit an officer's ability to see into a motor vehicle to observe threats and see violations of law. However, thirty-five percent light transmittance still lows visibility into a motor vehicle, even at night, while still providing the added benefits in reducing glare for drivers with light sensitivity, protection from modern high glare LED lighting, reduced interior temperatures, reduced UV damage, and protection from car break-ins.

Chairman Ruby and House Transportation Committee members, I respectfully request you vote a **Do Pass** on HB 1340.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Edinger", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Edinger